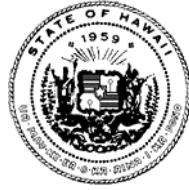


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE  
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KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
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KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA  
Office of the Director  
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TRISTA SPEER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

February 25, 2025

TO: The Honorable Senator San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **SCR 13/SR 9 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO INCENTIVIZE COMMUNITY CARE FOSTER FAMILY HOMES IN THE STATE TO ACCEPT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE STATE'S MEDICAID I/DD WAIVER PROGRAM.**

Hearing: Wednesday, February 26, 2025, Time 1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this resolution and provides comments. DHS is willing to collaborate with the Department of Health-Developmental Disability Division (DOH-DDD) on ways to increase and streamline access to residential settings that provide services needed by the populations we both serve. However, the request to expand access to Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFH) for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) is not currently feasible, given the regulatory limitations.

**PURPOSE:** The resolution requests the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Department of Health (DOH) to establish a program to incentivize Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFH) in the State to accept individuals who are eligible for assistance pursuant to the State's Medicaid 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver for

Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

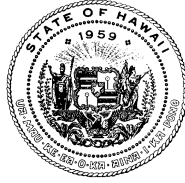
DHS Med-QUEST Division (DHS-MQD) is the “Single State Medicaid agency” that administers Hawai'i Medicaid State Plan, the section 1115 Demonstration, which includes the 1115 HCBS program. It also oversees the 1915(c) waiver. The DOH-Developmental Disabilities Division (DOH-DDD) operates the Medicaid 1915(c) HCBS waiver for individuals with IDD on behalf of MQD.

To be eligible for the 1915(c) waiver, a person must meet an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with IDD (ICF-IID) level of care, meaning without services in homes and communities provided by DOH-DDD, they would be served in a facility. DOH-DDD provides an array of services, including residential habilitation, personal assistance, adult day health, community learning, employment services, respite in family homes, and case management provided by state workers. Individuals needing residential habilitation services may receive them in various licensed or certified settings, such as Adult Foster Homes for Individuals with IDD, DD Domiciliary Homes, and Adult Residential Care Homes.

For the 1115 array of HCBS services, individuals must meet the Nursing Facility level of care. The 1115 HCBS services do have some overlapping services to the DDD program, but some services are unique to each program. Additionally, the 1115 services include alternative residential services provided by CCFFHs and Expanded-Adult Residential Care Homes (E-ARCH). All 1115 HCBS services are provided by the Medicaid managed care plans. Notably, an individual cannot receive both 1115 and 1915(c) HCBS services at the same time, and CCFFH services are not currently available to individuals in the 1915(c) IDD HCBS program.

DHS is willing to collaborate with DOH-DDD on ways to increase and streamline access to residential settings that provide services needed by the populations we both serve. However, the request to expand access to CCFFHs for individuals with IDD is not currently feasible, given the regulatory limitations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this resolution.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'AINA O KA MOKU'AINA 'O HAWAII

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A., M.P.H.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

## Testimony Commenting on SCR13/SR 9

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO INCENTIVIZE COMMUNITY CARE FOSTER FAMILY HOMES IN THE STATE TO ACCEPT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE STATE'S MEDICAID I/DD WAIVER PROGRAM.**

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: February 26, 2025 1:00 pm      Room Number: 225

1    **Department Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) - Developmental Disabilities Division  
2    (DOH-DDD) provides the following COMMENTS on this resolution.

3    **Department Testimony:**

4            SCR 13/SR 9 asks the Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Department of  
5    Health (DOH) to incentivize Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFH) in the State to  
6    accept individuals who are eligible for assistance pursuant to the Medicaid 1915(c) Home and  
7    Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental  
8    Disabilities (IDD) due to insufficient numbers of CCFFH's for individuals with IDD.

9            The DHS-MedQUEST Division (DHS-MQD) administers the Hawai'i Medicaid State  
10    Plan, the 1115 Demonstration waiver, which includes the 1115 HCBS program, and the 1915(c)  
11    Demonstration waiver. The DOH-DDD operates the Medicaid 1915(c) HCBS waiver for  
12    Individuals with IDD on behalf of the DHS-MQD. To be eligible for the 1915(c) waiver, a  
13    person must meet an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with IDD (ICF-IID) level of care,  
14    meaning without services in homes and communities provided by DOH-DDD, they would be  
15    served in a facility. DOH-DDD provides an array of services including residential habilitation,  
16    personal assistance, adult day health, community learning, employment services, respite in  
17    family homes and case management provided by State workers.

1           Individuals in the 1915(c) waiver who need residential habilitation services receive them  
2 in licensed or certified settings such as Adult Foster Homes for Individuals with IDD, DD  
3 Domiciliary Homes, and Adult Residential Care Homes. These settings exist statewide, with  
4 more availability found in urban settings than rural and Neighbor Island settings. Individuals in  
5 the 1915(c) HCBS waiver cannot simultaneously be in the 1115 HCBS program, but do receive  
6 their medical services through MQD's health plans.

7           The HCBS Case Management Agencies and certified CCFFHs are services specific to  
8 Hawaii's 1115 waiver and not the 1915(c) waiver for Individuals with IDD. Access to CCFFHs  
9 is through the 1115 Case Management Agencies operated by the MQD Health Plans. HRS §321-  
10 483 authorizes the provision, authority over, and evaluation of CCFFHs, for adults who are at the  
11 nursing facility level of care and are unrelated to anyone in the household, for twenty-four hour  
12 living accommodations. These are generally older adults and people with disabilities.

13           HAR §11-800-1 establishes the administrative provisions for DOH to license HCBS Case  
14 Management Agencies and certify CCFFHs.

15           As stated in §11-800-1:

16           (1) Licensed home and community-based case management agencies will be able to  
17 provide case management services to individuals in community care foster family homes,  
18 or Medicaid recipients in expanded adult residential care homes, and assisted living  
19 facilities; and

20           (2) Certified community care foster family homes will be able to provide, for a fee,  
21 living accommodations and other related services to clients with nursing facility level of  
22 care needs who are placed by licensed home and community-based case management  
23 agencies.

24           If a person in the DOH-DDD HCBS 1915(c) IDD program develops medical needs that  
25 require intermittent skilled nursing, daily nursing, and nursing oversight, beyond the capacity to  
26 be served in the 1915(c) waiver they could be transitioned to the 1115 HCBS program to access

1 a CCFFH and the ongoing nursing services that are offered in these settings. There is an  
2 established transition review process in the event of changing needs of individuals. Because, by  
3 regulation, the person may not receive case management services from both DOH-DDD and the  
4 1115 case management agency, they are disenrolled from the 1915(c) waiver and enrolled in an  
5 1115 case management agency/HCBS program upon which they can access a CCFFH.

6 The DOH is open to working with DHS on ways to increase and streamline access to  
7 residential settings that provide services needed by the population we serve. The solution  
8 proposed in SCR13/SR9 to offer incentives cannot increase access to CCFFHs as a residential  
9 services option for individuals in the 1915(c) waiver due to regulatory restrictions at both the  
10 state licensing and certification, and federal Medicaid levels, and it would not be useful to  
11 establish such a program as a result.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this resolution.



STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA  
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

February 26, 2025

The Honorable Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator San Buenaventura and Committee Members,

SUBJECT: SCR13/SR9 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO INCENTIVIZE COMMUNITY CARE FOSTER FAMILY HOMES IN THE STATE TO ACCEPT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE STATE'S MEDICAID I/DD WAIVER PROGRAM

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SCR13/SR9, which requests the Department of Human Services and Department of Health to establish a program incentivizing Community Care Foster Family Homes (CCFFHs) to accept individuals eligible for assistance under the state's Medicaid I/DD 1915(c) Waiver Program.

For too long, individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) have faced limited residential options due to the siloed approach between the Department of Health's Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) and the Adult Foster Homes for I/DD. This has left many individuals—especially those on the neighbor islands—without the option to live in community settings that provide the necessary care and support while allowing them to thrive in a home-like environment.

Expanding CCFFHs to include individuals on the I/DD 1915(c) Medicaid waiver program would:

- Increase housing choices that align with person-centered planning.
- Reduce institutionalization in Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) and ensure that individuals with I/DD can live in settings that promote independence and community inclusion.
- Help address the current housing and caregiver shortage by creating new residential options.
- Ensure equity, allowing individuals with I/DD the same access to Medicaid-funded home and community-based services as others.

We understand the challenges of finding appropriate residential support, especially on the neighbor islands, we urge the Legislature to support this resolution. Breaking down barriers and creating incentives for CCFFHs to accept individuals on the I/DD 1915(c) Medicaid waiver program is a critical step toward equity and inclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of SCR13/SR9.**

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

**LATE**

**SR-9**

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 9:40:44 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/26/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Daintry Bartoldus	Testifying for State Council on Developmental Disabilities	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Supporting the written testimony of the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities



**SR-9**

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 5:52:58 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/26/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Louis Erteschik	Testifying for Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Individuals with ID/DD face limited residential options especially on the neighbor islands. Expanding CCFFHs to include people in the DD Home and Community Based waiver is an excellent idea and would provide more housing choices that align with person-centered planning. There is no reason that this population cannot be served in these settings.

**SR-9**

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:52:30 AM

Testimony for HHS on 2/26/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hawaii Self Advocacy Advisory Council	Testifying for Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For too long, individuals with disabilities have faced **limited residential options** due to the siloed approach between the Department of Health’s Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) and other agencies that provide home and community-based services. This has **left many individuals with I/DD without the choice to live in community settings** that can provide the care and support we need while allowing us to **thrive in a home-like environment**.

Expanding CCFHs to include people on the I/DD waiver would:

- **Provide more housing choices** that align with person-centered planning.
- **Reduce institutionalization** and ensure that people with I/DD can live in settings that promote independence and community inclusion.
- **Help address the current housing and caregiver shortage** by creating new residential options.
- **Ensure that individuals with I/DD receive the same opportunities as others** who qualify for Medicaid-funded home and community-based services.

As someone who understands the **challenges of finding appropriate residential support**, I urge the Legislature to support this resolution. Breaking down the barriers between agencies and creating incentives for CCFHs to accept individuals on the I/DD waiver is a **critical step toward equity and inclusion**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony. I respectfully urge you to pass this resolution and help individuals with I/DD **live with dignity in a supportive, community-based environment**.

**SR-9**

Submitted on: 2/24/2025 6:46:33 PM

Testimony for HHS on 2/26/2025 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in support of SCR13/SR9 for additional foster family homes. Mahalo for helping the youth to find homes that can take care of them. Mahalo!